

REMARKS

Applicant acknowledges with appreciation the allowance of claims 5-14, and the acknowledgment of allowable subject matter in claims 2-4.

Claims 1-15 are pending in the present application and are respectfully submitted for consideration.

Favorable reconsideration of this application is respectfully requested in view of the following remarks.

In the Office Action mailed October 18, 2004, claim 1 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Futatsuyama et al. (Pub. No. U.S. 2001/0005015, "Futatsuyama"). Claims 5-14 are allowed, and claims 2-4 are objected to as dependent on a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

By the instant amendment, claim 1 is canceled and the subject matter thereof is incorporated into claim 2, thereby rendering claim 2 allowable. Claims 3 and 4 are amended to depend from claim 2. Accordingly, claims 3 and 4 are allowable for the same reasons as claim 1, as well as for the additional subject matter recited therein.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, withdrawal of the outstanding rejections and objections in this application and the prompt issuance of a Notice of Allowability are respectfully requested.

Any additional fees that may be due with respect to this paper may be charged to Deposit Account No. 01-2300 referencing Attorney Docket No. **108066-00099**.

Respectfully submitted,
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